



AUTO + ASSEMBLY

DAILY NEWSLETTER #4
FRIDAY 17.12.21

SPORT IN THE SPOTLIGHT

AHEAD OF THE 2021 PRIZE GIVING, ASNs TAKE CENTRE STAGE IN PARIS.



ASN Forum

SUPPORTING ASNs TO GROW MOTOR SPORT AROUND THE WORLD

The ASN Forum provided an excellent opportunity for representatives of National Sporting Authorities to receive updates on several initiatives, strategies and measures being implemented to support and develop motor sport the world over.



FIA Deputy President for Sport Graham Stoker opened the Forum by underlining its importance before recognising the ongoing challenges created by the global health crisis. But he was clear in his view that the pandemic is something that can be dealt with. "Let's have the confidence that motor sport is back," he stated.

FIA President Jean Todt said the involvement of so many ASNs demonstrated the strong level of commitment that exists. "It makes me proud to lead a strong organisation having created a true FIA Family," he said.

The meeting continued with a presentation from FIA ASN Development Task Force President Andrew Papadopoulos, who gave an overview of some of the main accomplishments of this past years – such as the report on the Global Contribution of Motor Sport to Economy and Community Development – and praised ASNs for "showing resilience" during the pandemic. He recognised how much motor sport has suffered as a result, but insisted that "we are here for any help or support you might need."

He explained that the Sports Club Development programme will begin in January with 24 Member Clubs initially receiving mentoring and advice over the next two years.

Papadopoulos also underlined the key function grassroots activities played in the restarting of motor sport and continue to play now with 85% of motor sport participation globally coming through grassroots events. "They generate income for ASNs because everybody needs a licence and every event needs a permit," he said.

FIA Training Manager Greg Symes spoke about the ASN Grassroots Toolkit and the role it played in promoting the accessibility of motor sport around the world, explaining that it contained important information on increasing participation through nine "really accessible" disciplines.

Despite the pandemic, Symes reported that a large number of training programmes and initiatives had been successfully delivered to ASNs globally. He highlighted the ASN Rally Safety Delegate Training, the Regional Stewards Training and Holmatro WRC e-Safety Training at the start of the hybrid-based Rally1 era.

While conceding much of the training had been provided online, he explained that the training was as interactive as possible with a high take up globally.

Papadopoulos gave a short update on the FIA Stronger Together Webinars, confirming that nine were organised with 481 unique participants from 118 countries taking part, while there were six FIA Sport Regional Congresses organised in 2021, with two held virtually and four adopting a hybrid format.

FIA Safety Director Tim Malyon took the opportunity to remind Delegates of the 'Vision Zero' concept, the strategic goal to ensure there are zero incidents of death or serious injury in motor sport. However, he was keen to highlight some of the concrete actions taken and services that are available to assist ASNs.

They include the World Accident Database, which encourages the FIA Family to report accidents and incidents in order to understand what happened, address actions and then communicate findings to the wider community.



Malyon gave details of the Crashtag app developed by the FIA and the South Australian Institute for Safety and supported by the FIA Innovation Fund. The app has been designed to make the capture of motor sport incident data seamless and easy to complete.

He spoke about the importance of direct exchanges between the FIA and ASNs concerning accident investigations and development of mitigating actions and insisted on the importance of communication and the dissemination of information, giving an example of the FIA Safety Bulletin as a useful tool.

FIA Sustainability Project Manager Lidia Wiśniewska underlined the role required by all sectors, including motor sport, to join the fight against climate change.

She gave an overview of the main achievements related to the implementation of the FIA Environmental Strategy in 2021, including the external certification of the FIA's environmental management system (according to ISO 14001:2015 standard) to ensure ongoing performance is achieved, and how the FIA had offset its remaining carbon emissions by investing in carbon compensation projects to an equivalent of 6,200 tonnes of CO₂ (covering 2020 footprint). These steps have enabled the FIA to become carbon neutral in 2021.

A carbon footprint calculation tool is available to help all the three-star-accredited stakeholders to understand and manage carbon emissions. Information on various training tools and grants was provided along with details of a sustainable events guide to reduce the environmental impact of events.

FIA Sustainable Motor Sport Programmes Coordinator Pierre Villez explained that 71 organisations, including 14 ASNs, have received Environmental Accreditation Programme certification, with a record of 27 organisations accredited in 2021. He also gave an overview of the benefits of the accreditation, while also providing Members with a reminder of the application process.

During a detailed presentation FIA Head of Executive Office Michael Mathys said that youth engagement is a critical area in which the FIA wants its Member Clubs to engage.

The FIA Youth Strategy will act as an overarching framework to lead the FIA Community in order to develop, support and accelerate its work with young people across Sport and Mobility.

The results of a survey among Member Clubs established three strategic objectives: to attract young members, to engage with them, and to retain them by remaining relevant and establishing long-term youth programs and initiatives. FIA CIK Executive Secretary / Head of Department – Karting Alban Martinet presented the Karting pyramid and explained how the Regional Cups arrive-and-drive concept would encourage the hundreds of thousands of people karting for fun in countries around the globe to consider taking part in competitions, but at an affordable and sustainable level.

FIA Formula E & Innovative Sport Activities Department Director Frédéric Bertrand provided an update on the FIA Motorsport Games, which are planned to take place from 26-30 October 2022 in France, at Circuit Paul Ricard and in Veynes and Sainte Baume located in close proximity. It is hoped that 5,000 participants from 100 ASNs will take part across the 18 disciplines including circuit racing, Karting, rallying and Esports, with the aim of achieving a social media reach of 20 million.

Bertrand gave details of the new ASN Village initiative and emphasised that ASNs don't need to send competitors for each of the categories.



Asia-Pacific/Asia Zone Meeting

GREEN SHOOTS OF RECOVERY

While motor sport activity has been restricted in the region due to the global pandemic, there were reasons for optimism and a clear illustration of a return to normality: the theme of the Asia-Pacific and Asia Zone Meeting.



In his opening address, FIA President Jean Todt paid tribute to the resilience and commitment of the Members gathered. "The Asia-Pacific Region, which is very dear to me, has been particularly hurt by COVID-19. It has made encouraging and growing participation by Clubs very difficult," he said.

President Todt praised the leadership of FIA Vice-President for Sport and Deputy Director General of CAMF Wan Heping, who will step down from his FIA role at the end of this week.

In return, Wan Heping thanked the FIA President for the "friendship and support for the Region" over the past 12 years of his term of office.

Attention turned to training initiatives carried out during 2021. In particular, Automobile General Association Macao-China Board Member Sancho Chan gave a report on the FIA Asia Training Centre Macao, which has developed a programme to strengthen the competencies of motor sport officials while creating a pathway for officials to progress from international series to wider FIA motor sport categories.

In 2021, over 400 officials took part in hybrid training events including Karting Race Direction, Circuit Race Direction, Medical/Rescue and 'Train the Trainer' sessions.

In Japan, there is a strong growth in Karting activity as reported by JAF Federation Secretary General Motor Sports Department and WMSC Member Koichi Murata. Karting continues to flourish in Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand. Koichi-san also reported that JAF was in advanced discussions with manufacturers regarding the introduction of hybrid karts in 2022.

Curbs on travel meant a number of high-profile FIA Formula 1 World Championship, FIA World Rally Championship and FIA World Endurance Championship events could not take place, although Motorsport New Zealand President and FIA Rally Commission President Wayne Christie said there was hope of the FIA Asia-Pacific Rally Championship returning in 2022, something India FMSCI Member Vicky Chandhok said was "pleasing to see".

Motorsport Australia CEO Eugene Arocca said: "Despite the challenges, we didn't lose touch with each other. Things are slowly coming back to normal. We need to be more optimistic and give Member Clubs confidence."

Discussion centred on the strides taken on emerging grassroots disciplines, such as Esports, Drifting, and Slalom. FIA ASN Development Task Force President and Motorsport Australia President Andrew Papadopoulos proposed establishing a Drag Racing working group to fully explore the possibilities for the discipline in the region.

When debate moved to funding support for ASNs, Papadopoulos urged attendees to engage with the EY-Parthenon study on the economic and social impact of the motor sport industry.

He said ASNs can aside a portion of a Sport Grant funding for a bespoke study for their region.

Janette Tan, the inaugural Charlie Whiting Award winner and a member of several FIA Commissions including the FIA Volunteer and Official Commission, as well as the FIA Women in Motorsport (as coordinator for the Asia-Pacific Region) and FIA Circuit Commissions, reported on the hugely successful FIA Volunteers and Officials Weekend which took place in November.



AIT/FIA Customs Council

SEEKING NEW AGREEMENTS AND MITIGATING RISK

Yesterday's AIT/FIA Customs Council meeting focused on the pursuit of new definitions for the relationship between the body and issuing Clubs and the reduction of risk across the network.



The meeting began with the confirmation by agreement of the replacement as a member of the Council of Hossein Arbabi with Dr Mohammad Hossein Soufi, both from Iran's TACI.

FIA Tourism Services Director Habib Turki then presented the Council with plans for the formulation of a new AIT/FIA Distribution and Guarantee Agreement. He explained that the existing agreement governing the relationship between the AIT/FIA and Clubs issuing *Carnets de Passages Douane* (CPDs) dates back to the 1980s. He stated this was no longer relevant as both technology and geopolitics have moved on considerably since its introduction and that a new agreement needs to be constructed. The new Guarantee Agreement would:

- cover the use of the e-Distribution System and accommodate evolutions in technology (i.e. digital *carnets*);
- detail the use of communication assets (logo, visual elements, colour charter) as provided by AIT/FIA;
- provide guidance on the coordination of communications campaigns with the FIA Tourism Services Department;
- end discriminatory practice with Clubs being required to guarantee AIT/FIA *carnets* regardless of the issuer;
- provide for periodic AIT/FIA assessments of CPD issuers in order to ensure compliance with regulations and to be able to assist Clubs in a customised way;
- prevent Clubs from imposing new barriers to CPD operations, such as authentication fees, or any other measures that would result in a loss of competitiveness;
- place an emphasis on dialogue with relevant authorities.

The Council meeting then discussed the price increase in CPDs proposed by the AIT. Several members queried the reasons behind the increase of CHF 3. Habib Turki suggested that the FIA Tourism Services Department make a study of the rationale behind the increase and its likely effect and report back its findings to the Council. This was agreed by Council members.

Scott Sinfield from Miller Insurance then presented a report to the Council detailing issues with the claims being made within the CPD Network. He pointed out that claims had significantly increased in the past year and highlighted a number of issues he said were placing undue strain on the network.

With the theme of claims and risk management occupying a substantial segment of the meeting, Council members were then given a presentation by CARS UK's Melvyn Palmer on the idea of introducing a further layer of risk management to the network.

CARS UK, as he said, proposes to restructure the worldwide CPD application risk assessment process. The new system would remove the responsibility of risk assessment from issuing Clubs and instead place it in the hands of a new Global Risk Assessment Team.

He said the advantages would be improved global oversight of issued CPD documents, creation of a worldwide policy for effective risk management, and global response to claims management. Risk to the FIA and to its insurance partner would also be reduced, it would create a new revenue stream and would also remove fraud from the network. The Council thanked him for his presentation, adding that it would be subject to further discussion.



Africa Region Meeting

RALLYING AT THE HEART OF MOTOR SPORT IN AFRICA

The FIA Confederation of African Countries in Motorsport (CACMS) gathered on Thursday morning under the chairmanship of FIA Vice President for Sport Surinder Thatthi.



Meeting chair Surinder Thatthi kicked off the discussion centred around the FIA African Rally Championship. The 2022 edition will start with the first of seven events in Ivory Coast from 25-27 February.

FIA Category Manager – Cross-Country and Regional Rally Championships Jérôme Roussel provided an update on the championship's 2022 Sporting Regulations. He confirmed that earlier this week the World Motor Sport Council approved a two-pass reconnaissance format after the proposal to the FIA Rally Commission by Rwanda Automobile Club President Christian Gakwaya was accepted. ARC Safety Delegate William Louw said it was a very good decision. Roussel confirmed that if fuel available locally is not to a suitable standard, then event organisers can apply to the FIA Rally Department for a waiver to use avgas (aviation gasoline). It was agreed cars can deviate from the centre line of the route to a tolerance of six metres, rather than the previous ten. A discussion on timecards followed.

Thatthi confirmed that a permanent team of stewards and technical delegates would not be appointed. However, he committed CACMS to creating a log to store decisions from previous events following a request by John Kamau.

Automobile Club of Burundi Deputy General Secretary Adon Negamiye outlined his country's plans to host a candidate ARC event in November 2022.

FIA Sport Grant Programme Manager Madeleine Cardenas gave an update on the FIA Sport Grant Programme and confirmed that 12 applications from Members in Africa had been approved in the last year.

President of the Automobile and Touring Club of Mozambique Rodrigo Rocha started a discussion on the African Karting

Championship, which, Vic Maharaj from Motorsport South Africa confirmed, was intended as an arrive-and-drive series over five rounds in 2022. Rocha said the initial plan was for rounds in Kenya, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, plus two in South Africa due to its greater availability of venues.

Botswana Motorsports President Kagiso Modibedi called for drawings to be provided to help in his efforts to secure funding to build a kart track. FIA Development Department Director Xavier Malenfer said support would be given.

Namibia Motor Sport Federation's Derek Jacobs said there are two circuits in his country. Maharaj said countries without kart tracks could still take part by entering drivers.

Roussel confirmed the FIA Rally Star African Continental Final is planned for mid-May in South Africa with the end of April being the deadline for nominating finalists.

Automobile and Touring Car Club of Nigeria President Ishaku Bamaïyi said his ASN was planning to organise an Esports selection event in February.

Motorsport South Africa President Christian Anton Roux will develop a grid to detail the activities and facilities of each CACMS Member Club.

Zambia Motor Sport Federation President Sam Chingambu offered to host next year's FIA Sport Regional Congress Africa. Thatthi confirmed Namibia and Rwanda had achieved full CACMS member status.

FIA President Jean Todt and Kenya's Minister of Sports, Culture and Heritage Amina Mohamed were guests of honour during the meeting.



FIA Foundation Annual General Meeting

MARKING TWO DECADES OF POSITIVE IMPACT

Yesterday's FIA Foundation Annual General Meeting (AGM) heard reports on the charity's work over the past year, as well as an overview of the impact of the Foundation as it marks its 20th anniversary.



The 2021 Annual Report was launched by the Foundation's Chairman, Lord Robertson of Port Ellen, at a hybrid meeting in Paris. In his introduction, Lord Robertson marked the significance of the FIA Foundation's anniversary: "I hope and believe that so constituted we are demonstrating a real value to the wider FIA, in particular our Club membership, not only in the funding and ideas that we invest back into the FIA world, but in the way our outreach to the wider policy world has helped to affirm the FIA as a good global citizen and force for positive change."

Lord Robertson went on to highlight the benefits of the Foundation's long-term approach which have delivered significant public health rewards. Global NCAP crash testing in India identified many vehicles lacked even the most basic safety measures which, within six years saw several home-built cars awarded a five-star rating. This rapid improvement represents the catalytic impact of the Global NCAP campaign's widespread publicity, public interest, and policy influence. Another example is iRAP, now assessing road infrastructure in 100 countries, working closely with governments and development banks. A version of iRAP's assessment methodology is now integrated within the World Bank's own safety policies. As the report highlights, iRAP star ratings are now being used as an essential metric providing competitive advantage to bidders for road concessions valued in billions of dollars. Investment by the Foundation over the past twenty years has also had a significant impact on motor sport safety improvements including fire resistant clothing, extrication training, high-speed barriers and the Halo. Through the new 'Track to Road' funding stream, the Foundation seeks to transfer some of this knowledge to the public road.

Speaking on key moments in 2021, Lord Robertson highlighted work in collaboration with a number of key partners, including the FIA, to support the FIA Safe and Affordable Helmet Programme, launching national coalitions in Kenya and Mexico, as well as devising and designing the United Nations' Streets for Life campaign, working closely with the World Health Organization and the FIA High Level Panel for Road Safety to secure endorsements. Other highlights included the Foundation's active participation in the COP26 climate summit, the TRUE Initiative activity with more than 30 cities to improve air pollution data collection, and its continuing global advocacy on youth issues, including road injury.

The AGM also heard about activities from FIA Member Clubs from both the Mobility and Sport pillars, including: OMDAI FIA Mexico, Kenya Motor Sports Federation, RACC International Relations, Ceylon Motor Sports Club, Automobile Club Guatemala, and ACTM Mozambique.

Marilena Amoni and Alan Gow both completed their third term and retired from the Foundation's Board of Trustees, as did Jean Todt as ex-officio Trustee at the end of his tenure as FIA President. They were replaced by new trustees, Qatar Motor & Motorcycle Federation President Abdulrahman Al-Mannai and Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy at the African Union Commission (AUC) Dr. Amani Abou-Zeid.

Finally, Lord Robertson recognised the road safety legacy of outgoing FIA President Jean Todt, who has been a strong supporter of the Foundation's activities and will continue in his role as United Nations Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Road Safety. Lord Robertson added: "For myself, and all of us in the Foundation, I can say that we look forward to working closely with the new FIA team, continuing our mission, set for us by the FIA 20 years ago, as an independent charity focused on road safety, the environment, safe motor sport and public health."



AGA 2021 - DAY 4





Today, at the Intercontinental Paris Le Grand, the FIA Smart Driving Challenge winner Alexandre Stricher and President of the Automobile Club Association Didier Bollecker received trophies handed over by FIA Deputy President for Automobile Mobility and Tourism Thierry Willemarck and CEO Greater Than Svenska AB CEO Johanna Forseke.



FIA.COM



TWITTER @FIA



FACEBOOK @FIA



INSTAGRAM @FIA.OFFICIAL